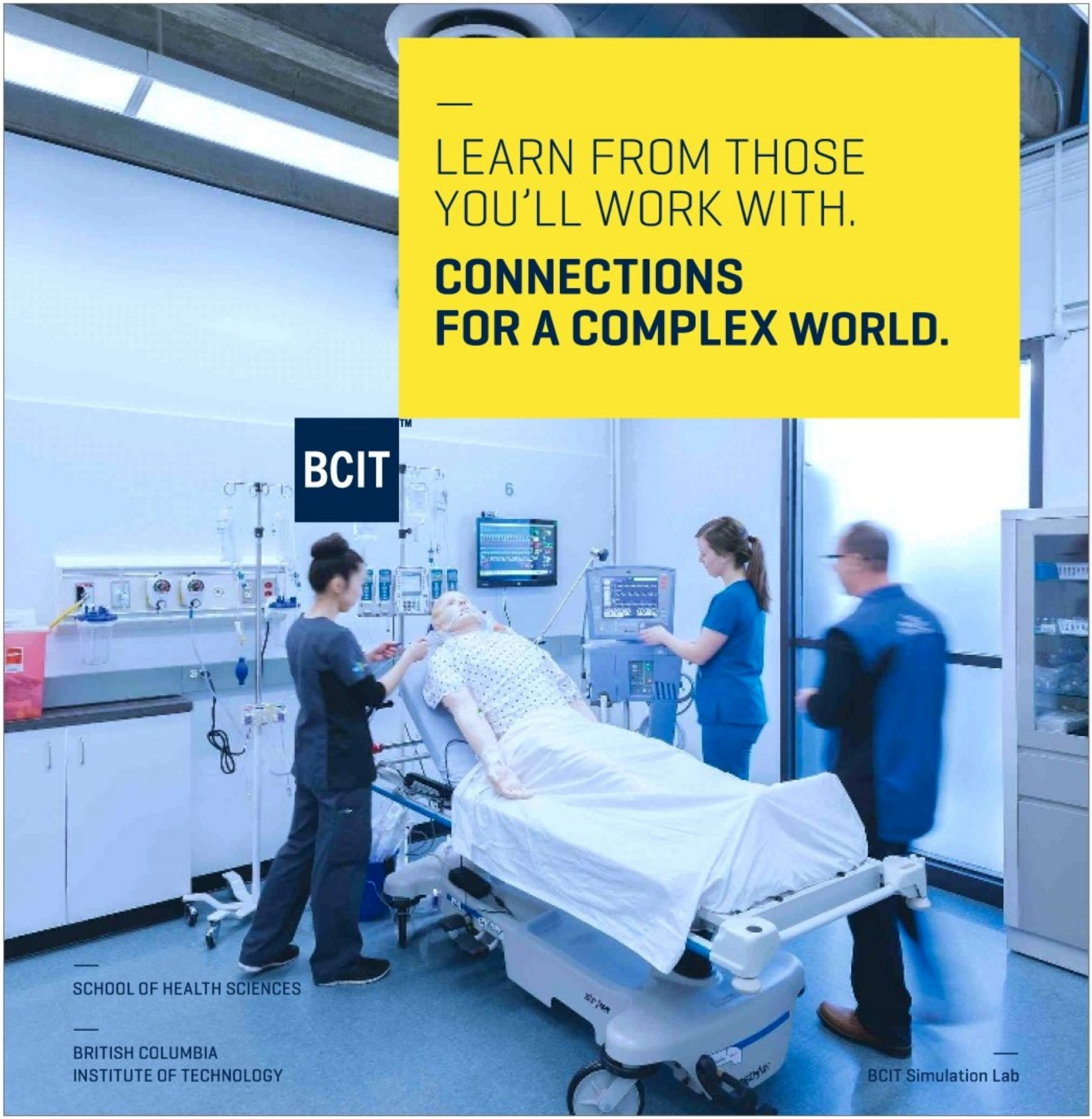
Vancouver metro

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017



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HALIFAX RALLY

PASSENGER IN TAXI SEXUAL ASSAULT CASE JOINS PROTEST

metroNEWS

The taxi industry plans to fight the decision in court.
EVAN CHEUNG/FOR METRO

WELCOME TO VANCO-UBER

Province intends to have ride-sharing operating in B.C. by December

metroNEWS

SUMMER BUMMER

Park Board denies event permit for annual 4/20 protest

metroNEWS

CALL THE TUNE

This year's Honda Celebration of Light will have the audience pick the songs

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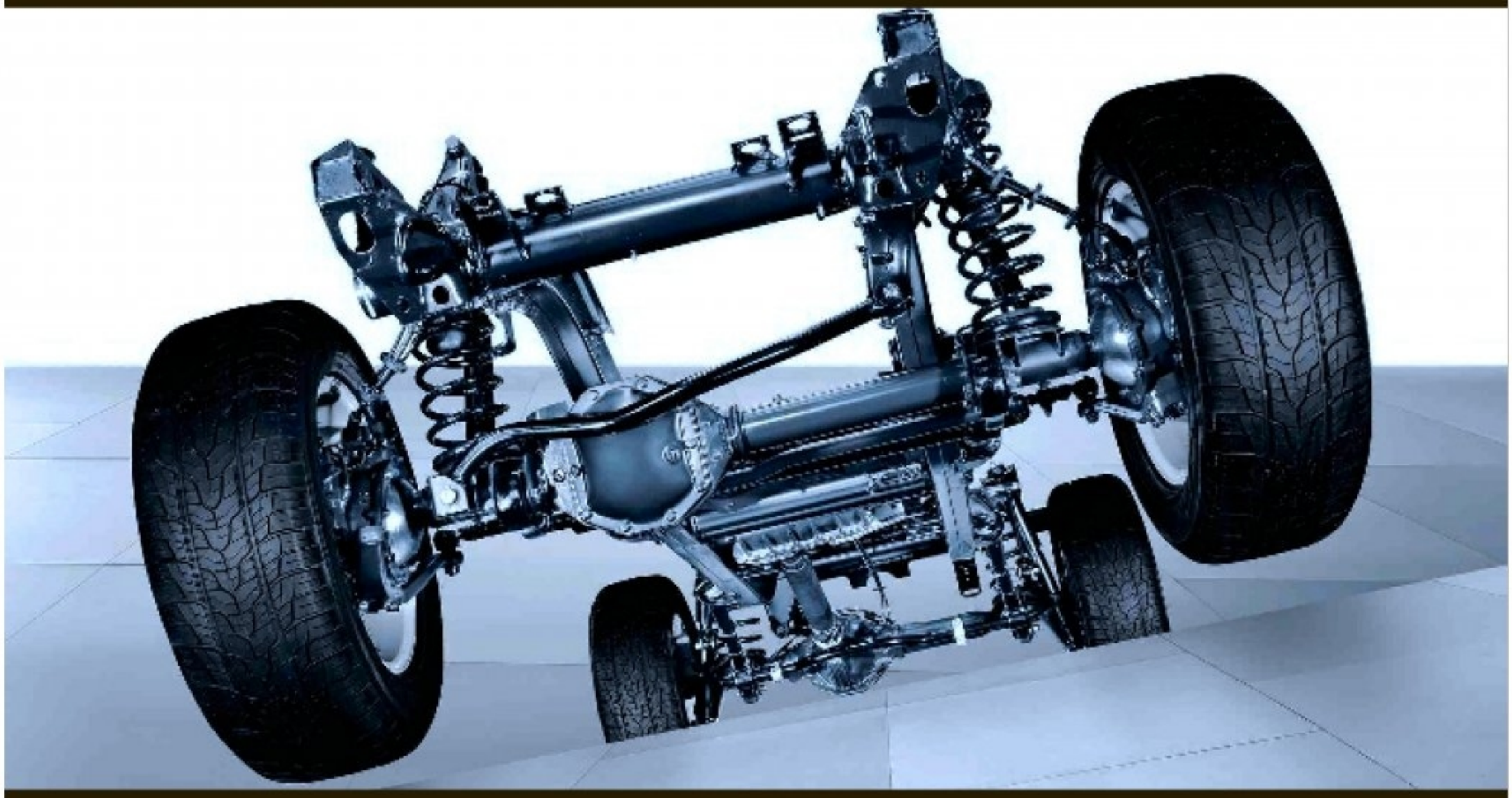

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WikiLeaks publishes huge trove of what it says are secret CIA documents. **World**

Park board extinguishes permit for 4/20 event

MARIJUANA

Organizers say the rally will go ahead anyway

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver's Park Board has rejected an application for a special event permit for this year's 4/20 rally at Sunset Beach.

Last year's unlicensed rally, which attracted at least 25,000 people to Vancouver's waterfront, was unlicensed and drew criticism from the park board chair who said the event was "unwanted and would not be welcomed back in 2017."

The park board's 4-3 vote Monday night against the motion to provide a permit to event organizers reflected that sentiment, said chair Michael Wiebe. "The will of the board is we don't want it to happen in our parks. It is not okay for us to relax the bylaw for this protest group," said Wiebe. He says he is working with event organizers and the city to find a new location, not in a city park, for 4/20.

"Moving forward, I am working hard to find a new location that will not contradict our smoking bylaw and will allow the park board to make sure we keep our beaches clean and open to the public."

A woman takes a hit from a bong during the annual 4/20 cannabis culture celebration at Sunset Beach in Vancouver on April 20, 2016. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

One 4/20 organizer says the park board's decision doesn't change how he will run the show. "It actually changes absolutely nothing for us on the ground in terms of how we put on the event. How we work with the park rangers, police, sanitation," said Dana Larsen, with the 420 Vancouver Event Society.

"All it does is create hostility and makes it hard for them to bill us, for costs, it makes it hard for us to get insurance."

Larsen says the society is still willing to cover most of the event costs and plans to work with city authorities to do so. He also called last year's garbage fiasco, where park board staff spent the morning of April 21st picking up trash that was strewn all over the beach, an "embarrassment."

> **It actually changes absolutely nothing for us on the ground in terms of how we put on the event.**
> Dana Larsen

"That will never happen again," said Larsen. The park board paid $30,000 out of pocket for extra costs associated with last year's rally, said Wiebe.

Wiebe, who voted in favour of giving a permit to 4/20 organizers, acknowledged it will now be more difficult to coordinate with event organizers and recuperate costs associated with the event.

"It's tough because we won't be permitting. But I think we can work with the organizers to ensure we make this as safe as possible for the residents of Vancouver."

4/20 is an annual marijuana-themed gathering that was held at the Vancouver Art Gallery for several years until organizers moved it to Sunset Beach for the first time in 2016.

SCHOOL BOARD

Bullying report released

A redacted report released by the Vancouver School Board singles out members of the left-leaning Vision Vancouver party in an external investigation that blames trustees for creating a toxic work environment in which staff were bullied and harassed.

The "tipping point" was a September meeting during which Vision's Patti Bacchus, a trustee at the time, put forward a motion asking the Vancouver mayor to review enrolment projections that had been prepared by board staff, says the report, which was written by lawyer Roslyn Goldner.

"I do not find the explanations provided by Vision trustees related to the motions proposed at the Sept. 26 meeting credible," Goldner wrote in the 44-page document, which was released Tuesday in response to a freedom-of-information request.

"The evidence supports the claims that their interest was in pursuing a political agenda rather than supporting the prior decision of the board and the recommendations of the senior staff."

The report says trustees relentlessly and aggressively questioned staff, who feared for their job security. This conduct escalated during 2016 amid a "highly politicized" budget and school closure plan, which proposed shutting down 11 schools, the report adds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Uber could come to province by December

TRANSPORTATION

Announcement comes after over a year of consultation

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Rideshare companies like Uber could come to B.C. as early as December 2017, the provincial government announced Tuesday.

The government made clear its intention to put ride-sharing legislation forward later in 2017 after more than a year of consultation with stakeholders, including taxi and rideshare companies.

The announcement comes at a time when political parties are gearing up for the May 9 provincial election.

Transportation Minister Todd Stone emphasized that government took its time making this decision because it wanted a "made-in-B.C. solution" for ridesharing.

"We know that British Columbians want additional choice and convenience and ride sharing companies like Uber and Lyft present real opportunities to provide new services for consumers through the use of technology," he said.

"We want to get this worked out soon and we want to get this worked out right."

The Vancouver Taxi Association told media it plans to challenge the decision in court. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

The Vancouver Taxi Association told media it plans to challenge the decision in court. The association did not respond to Metro's request for an interview.

Stone tried to reassure critics by highlighting the millions of dollars the province plans to invest in the taxi industry to ensure "a level playing field."

But along with those investments, the province will also lift the cap on taxi licences, which could drop the value of licences dramatically.

Fassbender told reporters there was no compensation plan in place to help taxi drivers who already have licences.

The B.C. government also announced safety regulations that it says would protect drivers and consumers, no matter which transportation option they chose.

Both ride-share and taxi drivers would need to be at least 19 years old and have an unrestricted driver's licence.

All drivers would need to pass a criminal record check.

The current class 4 licence requirement for taxi drivers will be phased out.

In a written statement, Uber called the announcement a "step forward" and encouraged all political parties to embrace ridesharing regulations.

The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade also applauded the move, saying the decision to modernize the taxi industry was "long overdue."

But at least one city councillor says he is disappointed with what he characterized as a "pre-election announcement."

"I don't think we see a lot of protection for riders here and I think it's a real devastating blow to the taxi industry," said Coun. Geoff Meggs."What we're doing instead is lowering our standards to make it easier for [Uber] to be successful."

WITH FILES FROM JEN ST. DENIS

+ TAXIS

Province promises support for taxis

New app
The province will invest up to $1 million to develop an app intended to help taxis compete with ride-share companies.

Crash prevention technology
ICBC will invest up to $3.5 million in taxis to install crash avoidance technology.

Insurance
The claims process will be streamlined to save taxis as much as 25%.

Reduced red tape
The province will work with cities to reduce red tape and overlap.

Pick-up/drop-off privileges
City will allow all drivers to pick up and drop off passengers anywhere.

Open up taxi supply
The province will address the current shortage of taxis and vehicles for hire.

WILDLIFE

Bear hunt 'just doesn't make sense'

There is more money to be made encouraging people to hunt grizzly bears with a camera instead of a gun, says the lead author of a new report that calls on British Columbia to end its annual trophy hunt of the animals.

Michael Audain, chair of the recently established Grizzly Bear Foundation, said there is "tremendous interest" in bear viewing and supporting that industry's development would create jobs in remote communities.

The 88-page report, which the foundation released Tuesday, lists 19 recommendations aimed at protecting B.C. grizzlies. The proposals range from improving laws around controlling bear attractants to creating an advisory board to direct future research.

One of the document's most controversial suggestions is for the B.C. government to halt the annual trophy hunt, which Audain said sees about 300 bears killed every year, out of an estimated total population of about 15,000.

"We strongly believe that bear viewing and bear hunting cannot co-exist," Audain said.

"Some guide outfitters suggest that we could do some bear viewing in the summer and the hunting in the fall, but it doesn't work that way," he added. "The bears can become habituated to people and then they're just pretty simple target practice for hunters."

B.C. is home to the second-largest population of grizzly bears, after Alaska. Their historic range has shrunk to northern and western mainland Canada and Alaska after previously spanning from northern Mexico to the Arctic, and from along the west coast to central Ontario and the American Midwest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLITICS

Vancouverite in race for Canadian chair of Democrats Abroad

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver has become ground zero of a Canadian effort to challenge U.S. President Donald Trump — by Americans living here hoping to influence his Democratic Party opposition.

The cross-country effort is being spearheaded by U.S. citizens living in B.C. — home to more Americans than anywhere else in the world — who are running for the Canadian board of the party's international wing, the Democratic Party Committee Abroad (DPCA). Also known as Democrats Abroad, its block of delegates has as much voting clout in the party as the state of Wyoming. But as a Thursday 9 p.m. PST deadline looms to register for its Canadian board elections, an organizer with Our Revolution Canada — formerly B.C. for Bernie — warns that much is at stake, but there's also the potential to "take back" the party from he called the "establishment."

"Americans are being mobilized, but the dynamics that played out in the national Democratic Party between supporters of Hillary Clinton and supporters of Bernie Sanders — the establishment wing and the progressive wing — those dynamics are at play now here in Canada among Americans," said David Mivasair, a Vancouver rabbi who is running to be chair of Democrats Abroad in Canada, in a phone interview.

"This election is taking place now, and this is our opportunity to change those dynamics.

Mivasair said the high concentration of U.S. voters in Canada could tip the balance away from the status quo, which he argued is essential to challenging Trump's populist appeal and declining Democratic turnout.

He's running for the Canadian chair against Mississauga, Ont. resident Steve Nardi, who said online that U.S. voters should get engaged in their country's politics because "every decision made in Congress has the potential to have, and in many cases has had consequential affects particularly for Americans living abroad. We have a great potential to impact even more elections in the future — more than any other country — but it will require focus," he stated.

Nardi acknowledged that "bruises remain" from "intense battles" between Sanders and Clinton supporters in the primaries he said "need to be addressed for Democrats to become a cohesive effective opposition."

A report last year by the Federal Voter Assistance Program estimated there are 661,000 U.S. voters living in Canada, and 28 per cent of them in Vancouver alone. Canada made up an estimated one-in-four U.S. voters abroad, the most of any country.

An organizer with the activist group Avaaz helps dual U.S.-Canadian citizen and Vancouver resident Tom Sandborn (left) register to vote in the 2016 U.S. election. DAVID P. BALL/METRO

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Menstrual mountain for charity

HEALTH

United Way begins Tampon Tuesday to aid families in need

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

It's hardly your usual office charity drive — men and women, some in traditionally "male-dominated" workplaces, proudly gathering mountains of menstrual products in their workplaces — but that's sort of the point.

Inspired by similar efforts in Eastern Canada, the United Way of the Lower Mainland (UWLM) noticed that many of the non-profits it funds for families in need were too often coming up short on one persistent request: feminine hygiene products.

So this week, the organization's branches across the country hosted events to mark what they called "Tampon Tuesday" in 15 Canadian communities, one day before Wednesday's International Women's Day. "When you're living in poverty or unemployed, accessing menstrual products can be a real challenge," said the charity's director of labour market participation, Nikki Hill, in a phone interview. "We're highlighting an issue many don't know a lot about, because of stigma associated with it. "A huge number of people who are working poor are having to make difficult decisions. We've heard stories of women choosing food for their kids and using toilet paper or socks for their own hygiene needs. That's just not acceptable."

Nikki Hill, with the United Way of the Lower Mainland, stands behind a pyramid of pads and other menstrual products donated by organizations across the region for women in need.
COURTESY UWLM

For the local event, Hill's organization held a breakfast Tuesday morning at its Burnaby headquarters which featured speeches by women leaders about gender justice particularly for the high numbers of women living in poverty in B.C. — YWCA Vancouver head Janet Austin and BC Federation of Labour president Irene Lanzinger.

> **I'm seeing pictures from the more male-dominated unions where people are coming in with towers of tampons they're bringing to us. That changes the conversation.**
> Nikki Hill

But it wasn't just speeches. Participants brought with them carloads of menstrual products they'd been collecting to donate, and products of all types — including pads and tampons, but also reusable items such as cups and washable pads. The local company Luna Pads also donated to the initiative, Hill said.

The UWLM will continue accepting donations at its Burnaby offices until Thursday, before delivering them to organizations needing them for women across the region.

"Food banks and neighbourhood houses do consistently list menstrual products among the products they need," Hill explained. "But even when there's a list that asks workplaces to put them in gift hampers, it's the most likely donation to be skipped.

"I'm seeing pictures from the more male-dominated unions where people are coming in with towers of tampons they're bringing to us. That changes the conversation."

The United Way will be collecting menstrual product donations at its offices (4543 Canada Way, Burnaby) until 4:30 p.m. Thursday and is asking for a variety of different product types to better meet recipients' preferences and needs.

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INTERNET

UBC hosts 'edit-a-thon' for women's Wikipedia equality

Ashley Singh
For Metro | Vancouver

Less than 13 per cent of contributors to Wikipedia — the world's most-visited reference website — are female, according to a survey conducted by the popular site's non-profit operator, the Wikimedia Foundation.

And that's led many to criticize what they said is a "bias towards information about males written by males," one Vancouver artist told Metro ahead of International Women's Day on Wednesday.

To encourage more women to start contributing to the site, the Belkin Art Gallery at the University of British Columbia is set to hold its first Wikipedia-Edit-a-Thon on March 18.

Artist and UBC professor Christine D'Onofrio started the free event in 2014, which teaches participants how to create and edit pages on Wikipedia about women and in particular women artists.

The gallery's public programs manager, Naomi Sawada, told Metro women artists often get overlooked in arts publications, and the same is true of Wikipedia.

Male scholars of art history are (more) noted than women," she said in a phone interview.

"But we're talking about Wikipedia, something many people use and go to on a daily basis, (and) we recognize that there is this bias towards information about males written by males."

> **What we want to see at this event is women coming together and talking about how to create these pages.**
> Naomi Sawada

Belkin Art Gallery has 4,400 works of art in the collection 13 per cent are by women artists, meaning 85 per cent of the work in the Belkin collection are by men. Sawada hopes that the Wikipedia-Edit-a-Thon sparks more female representation as a result.

"What we want to see at this event is women coming together and talking about how to create these pages talking about women artists in our community, and really helping each other in a collaborative way to create more pages," said Sawada.

UBC media studies professor Edana Beauvais, suggested Wikipedia's gender gap could be linked to its code-heavy interface, women's underrepresentation in Information Technology and computer coding fields and, she suggested, disproportionate time spent dealing with family-related issues.

"Lack of early exposure might be another problem — because there are fewer women role models and mentors in male-dominated fields, young women might not be exposed to those kinds of jobs, or might have trouble envisioning themselves in a career typically held by men," she said.

Three local events kick off Friday at Emily Carr University's library (1399 Johnston St.), from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Belkin Art Gallery (1825 Main Mall, UBC) will hold a second on March 18, noon to 5 p.m. Western Front Gallery's will be March 19, noon to 5 p.m. (303 East 8th Ave.)

City backs down on proposal

CHARACTER HOMES

Limiting the size of new houses was considered

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

The City of Vancouver won't limit the size of a new house that can be built when an older home is torn down but will instead look at offering incentives to homeowners who decide to keep old houses.

"We heard strong support for retention of character homes but equally strong support for incentives to provide more alternative housing types, what we might call gentle density infill on those same neighbourhoods," said Gil Kelley, Vancouver's chief planner.

"We also heard very strong disapproval of the so-called downzoning ... to limit the size of single-family homes in order to dis-incent demolition of small homes and replace them with large, big homes."

In response to a sharp increase in the number of demolitions of older homes, city staff had drafted a suite of new regulations in an attempt to stem the rush to tear down smaller, older homes and replace them with homes that in many cases were twice the size of the original house.

Limiting the size of the new house was one tool city planners were considering to incentivize homeowners to keep pre-1940 houses.

But that recommendation, first identified in 2015, got pushback from homeowners, builders and younger people who have been priced out of Vancouver's single-family neighbourhoods, where most homes are now worth well over $1 million.

Property owners feared the measure would reduce the value of their property, and residents and builders were concerned that it would prevent denser housing types from being built.

Limiting home size could also reduce the likelihood a property owner would add a secondary suite, according to an economic analysis undertaken by the city.

Instead, planning staff will likely recommend incentives, such as faster development permitting and grants, to property owners across the city who would like to preserve an older home.

Allowing homeowners to expand the floor area of their existing home in order to add more suites is also something the city is considering.

Those additional suites could be rental, for family use, or the building could be stratified so those units could be owned by different owners.

"We heard that not everyone is looking at higher density forms for new home construction, and that is where we should be going as a priority," said Tanis Knowles Yarnell, a city planner.

Planning staff will report back to council on March 28 with their final recommendations.

In response to a sharp increase in the number of demolitions of older homes, city staff had drafted new regulations in an attempt to stem the rush. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

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Taxi verdict appeal 'a big relief'

HALIFAX

Woman at the centre joins in rally as Crown prepares move

Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

People turned out in the hundreds Tuesday to protest last week's ruling by Judge Gregory Lenehan in Halifax on Tuesday afternoon. JEFF HARPER/METRO

As hundreds of people gathered in Halifax to raise their voices in protest against a judge's recent sexual-assault acquittal, the woman at the centre of the case stood among them as another face in the crowd.

The passenger in the case around taxi driver Bassam Al-Rawi said she originally didn't want to attend the rally against Judge Gregory Lenehan's ruling, but on Tuesday she saw the Crown would be appealing the case and began "feeling the excitement around the city."

"I didn't talk to anybody, I just kind of watched," she said in a phone interview, adding with a laugh she was frozen after standing in the cold, "but it was worth it."

The woman, whose identity is protected by a publication ban, said she had mixed feelings on the Crown's appeal, which includes six specific examples where they say Lenehan erred in his decision.

"It was a big relief, with just an undertone of dread that it might end up leading to a retrial. But I mean all in all, the good outweighs the bad there," she said.

The Court of Appeal still must decide whether a retrial could happen, and while the woman said she knows it will likely be a long time before she'd possibly testify, she's prepared for much more public attention.

In a way, the woman said the publicity could make it easier because the first time around only reporters and Al-Rawi's supporters were there, so average citizens crammed into the courtroom "would honestly make a difference."

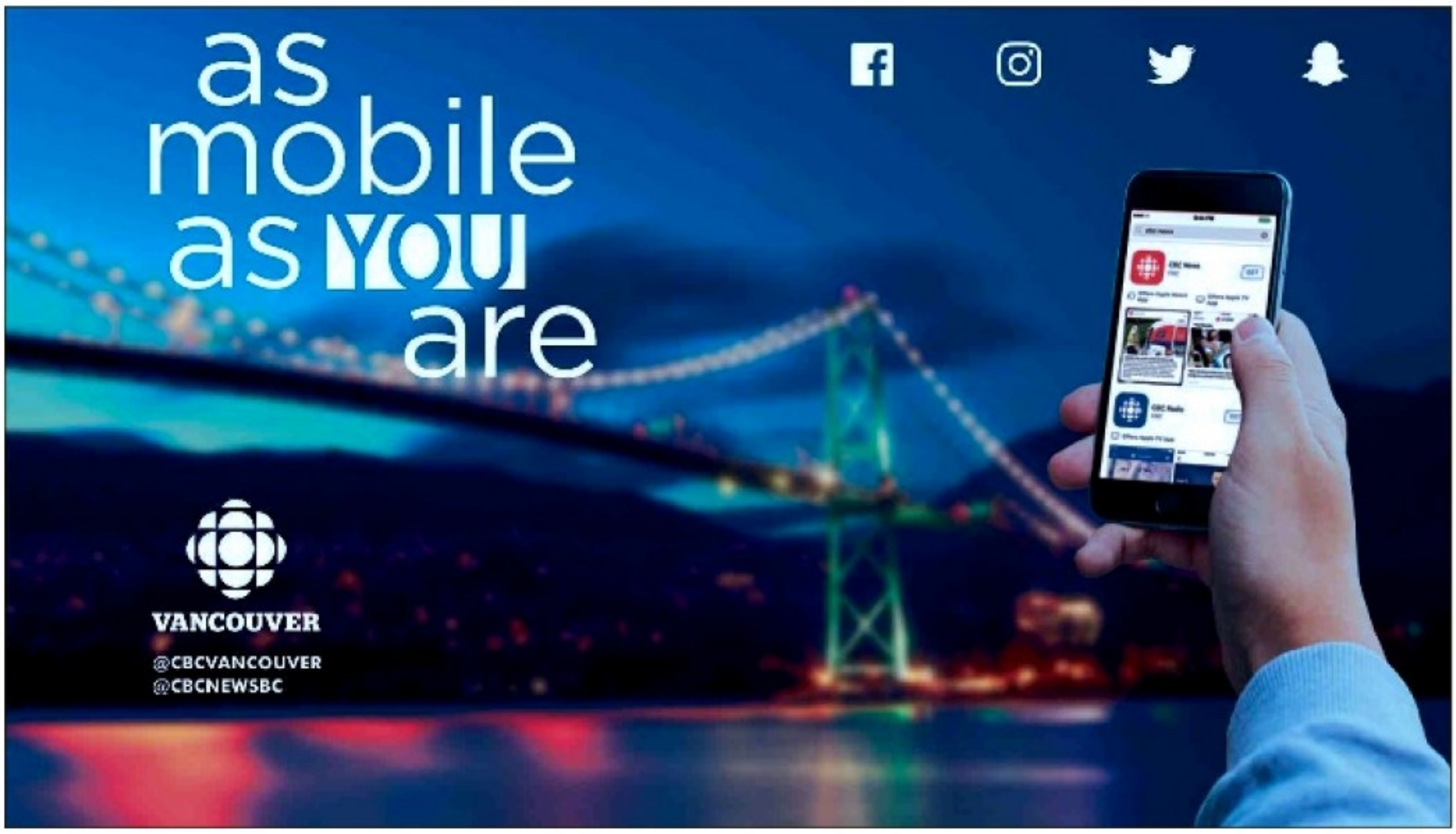
"(There's) something that's gratifying about people who don't even know you coming out to support," she said.

"That's been really cool."

ERROR OF LAW

The statement said Judge Lenehan erred in law by:

- Concluding the Crown had offered no evidence of lack of consent from the complainant
- Engaging in speculation about consent rather than drawing inferences from the facts proven in the evidence
- Failing to give proper legal effect to the facts
- Offering an erroneous interpretation and application of the test for capacity to consent
- Failing to direct himself on the provisions of Section 273.1 of the Criminal Code, which deals with aggravated sexual assault
- Failing to determine if the accused took all reasonable steps to ascertain that the complainant was consenting



Border crackdown worries advocates

IMMIGRATION

1,700 claims at 'irregular' crossings by March 2017

An RCMP officer warns a family they will be arrested if they cross into Canada from Champlain, N.Y., last month. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

On the eve of the U.S. homeland security secretary's visit to Canada, refugee advocates worry Ottawa could ask the Americans to beef up border enforcement to curb the flow of asylum-seekers coming into the country.

The surge of illegal crossings in recent months is expected to be a key issue on the agenda between Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale and U.S. Secretary John Kelly.

"They have done it in the past and started arresting people coming up at the border. Canadian officials can ask the Americans to boost enforcement," said Janet Dench of the Canadian Council for Refugees. "It would be really disturbing if Canada is going to push the U.S. to do that."

The Department of Homeland Security has yet to officially announce Kelly's trip, but Canadian cabinet minister Marc Garneau has told the media it could be as early as Friday. The American embassy in Ottawa would not confirm the meeting.

In the first two months of 2017, some 1,700 refugee claims were filed at the land border across the country, including asylum-seekers who entered outside of an official port of entry, which officials call "irregular" crossings, and those who crossed legally at a border enforcement station.

Quebec, which has seen the highest number of irregular crossings across Canada so far this year, has already received 1,087 land-border claims. That's 43 per cent of the total for all of 2016.

On Tuesday, Goodale said the government is working on contingency plans should the situation along the border change. Contingencies being considered include the possibility of a larger number of migrants attempting the crossing as the weather improves and threats to the safety of migrants in case of flooding along the Red River near Emerson, Man., another hot spot for irregular crossings.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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WikiLeaks reveals CIA 'hacking' files

SURVEILLANCE

Documents say spies could access Android, Apple devices

WikiLeaks published thousands of documents Tuesday described as secret files about CIA hacking tools the government employs to break into users' computers, mobile phones and even smart TVs from companies like Apple, Google, Microsoft and Samsung.

The documents describe clandestine methods for bypassing or defeating encryption, antivirus tools and other protective security features intended to keep the private information of citizens and corporations safe from prying eyes. U.S. government employees, including President Donald Trump, use many of the same products and Internet services purportedly compromised by the tools.

The documents describe CIA efforts — co-operating with friendly foreign governments and the U.S. National Security Agency — to subvert the world's most popular technology platforms, including Apple's iPhones and iPads, Google's Android phones and the Microsoft Windows operating system for desktop computers and laptops.

The documents also include discussions about compromising some internet-connected televisions to turn them into listening posts. One document discusses hacking vehicle systems, indicating the CIA's interest in hacking modern cars with sophisticated on-board computers.

WikiLeaks has a long track record of releasing top-secret government documents, and experts who sifted through the material said it appeared legitimate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange addresses media in London in 2016. BEN STANSALL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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ANTI-SEMITISM

Wave of bomb threats target Jewish centres

Jewish community centres in Toronto and London, Ont., were among several across North America that received bomb threats on Tuesday.

Police say the Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre in Toronto was evacuated out of "an abundance of caution" in light of threats made in New York, Oregon, Wisconsin, Illinois, Florida and Maryland.

Toronto Mayor John Tory visited the Jewish community centre targeted by the threat, calling the incident "very traumatizing," and New York Mayor Bill de Blasio was at a Jewish community centre to denounce previous threats when he learned of the new ones.

"This is a moment in time, in history, where forces of hate have been unleashed," de Blasio said. "It is exceedingly unsettling."

> **This is a moment in time where forces of hate have been unleashed.**
> New York Mayor Bill de Blasio

Federal officials have been investigating more than 120 threats against Jewish organizations in three dozen states since Jan. 9 and a rash of vandalism at Jewish cemeteries. Over the course of Monday evening and Tuesday, there were eight emailed or phoned-in bomb threats in six states plus Ontario, the JCC Association of North America said.

Also Tuesday, two suburban Jewish community centres in upstate New York were shut down when someone phoned in bomb threats, authorities said. The Jewish Community Center in the Milwaukee suburb of Whitefish Bay was closed for almost two hours. A Jewish community centre in Portland, Oregon, received a bomb threat, too. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARINE LIFE ELUSIVE BEAKED WHALE SURFACES IN THE AZORES A rarely spotted whale has been caught on underwater video for the first time ever. The group of True's beaked whales was spotted by a group of German teachers who were on an Azores expedition with schoolchildren. Once the whales were seen on the surface, a member of the group swiftly slipped beneath the surface with a GoPro camera in hand.

TEXT: ANDREW FIFIELD/METRO; PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, March 8, 2017

JESSICA ALLEN ON COMFORT FOOD

After a death in the family, I'm longing for a meal that I'll never eat again.

There's nothing like a good food fight.

Crunchy vs. smooth peanut butter. Milk producers fighting for counter space alongside almond, soy and rice beverages. And home-cooked comfort food stacked up against fine restaurant fare.

That last one is stirring up emotions for political watchers, and for me.

On Sunday, New York Times columnist Frank Bruni asked: "When did we turn into such food snobs here in America, land of the free and home of the Bloomin' Onion?"

He was referring to the mocking of Donald Trump for delighting in a well done steak with a side of ketchup. Teasing Trump for his gauche tastes is "bound to backfire," Bruni argues, not only because it sets up his critics as the "sneering elites" he rails against, but for its hypocrisy. "Let he who is without a bag of microwave popcorn in his cupboard cast the first stone," he writes.

Using that criteria, I could hurl a rock at the president. But expand it to packets of onion soup mix for whipping up a meat loaf, another Trump favourite, and I just called the kettle black.

We don't need Proust to remind us that food is marinated with memory. Although it does help explain why I'll always choose the comforting comestible over the Michelin-starred one. And why, after a recent death in the family, I'm longing for a meal that I'll never be able to make.

After having worked in restaurants for a decade and writing almost exclusively about food for many years, my soft spot for meat and potatoes sometimes surprises people. Foie gras can be sublime. But nine times out of 10, I'll take the meatloaf (the secret is to add some sautéed leeks with the packaged soup, ketchup, and pulverized saltines), with a bottle of Barolo. It's about balance.

Foie gras can be sublime. But nine times out of 10, I'll take the meatloaf.

Jessica Allen and her brother as children delightedly digging into their Aunt Sandy's roast chicken dinner. CONTRIBUTED

Jim Harrison, the great American poet and writer who passed away last year, found that equilibrium. He once ate, and wrote about, a 37-course meal prepared by the famed French chef Marc Meneau, but he also once had a Whopper at Burger King and then drove to McDonald's for a second course of French fries.

Harrison had no patience for food snobbery. When "certain Gucci-Pucci-Armani Italians" told him that they'd never sampled one of his favourite dishes, spaghetti and meatballs, because "the dish is an American perversion of Italian cuisine," he'd always reply: "I don't give a s—."

I'm getting there. Not long ago I admitted on national television that I don't like chicken. A few viewers took this to mean that I am a food snob who thinks poultry is pedestrian. It just depends on the chicken. I occasionally enjoy a quarter chicken dinner (with fries, obviously) from Swiss Chalet.

And my Aunt Sandy's roast chicken is exempt.

For a good decade in my youth, my family, aunts, uncles, and cousins would congregate at her place in Strathroy, Ont., and devour her roast chicken dinners.

Just a couple weeks ago, my mom and I laughed on the phone about how, despite our best efforts, none of us can replicate the meal, not even the boiled potatoes. I can't remember the last time I had it, but if I could choose one last dinner before the Big Light goes out, I told her, it would be Aunt Sandy's roast chicken with all the fixings.

Last Monday, my mom called to tell me that Sandy had suddenly passed away.

While I wrote the obituary in a haze of grief, all I could think about was Aunt Sandy's food. The pots of soup that nourished us after the Strathroy Santa Claus parade, the labour-intensive shrimp dip, which we obliviously piled high on crackers, and the cabbage rolls that I used to think were "authentic," as in a recipe my grandmother brought over from the old country, but was provided by Vi Moffatt, an English woman who lived across the street.

After the funeral, friends and family piled plates with finger sandwiches, jarred green olives, and thick slices of kielbasa, which I brought from Toronto. Sandy loved the stuff, which she referred to as a rather large part of a horse's anatomy. I was worried that it wouldn't get eaten up. Maybe it was too low-brow. But the kielbasa — all eight feet of it — was the first thing to go.

We shared stories: A cousin confessed he dreams of an IV drip filled with her chicken gravy. Another slipped me a photocopied recipe of her exquisite shrimp dip, which calls for a can of tomato soup, Miracle Whip, and four tins of shrimp. And my mom and Sandy's 16 cousins from Mildmay, Ont., confirmed the stories I've heard for years: how the Strathroy "city kids" delighted in doing the "country kids'" farm chores; how five or so chickens in the yard met their death in order to feed the family, which ate in shifts.

On the phone that Monday when my mom called, her pain still raw, she told me that just three days before Sandy died, she'd told her what I'd said about her roast chicken dinner. Sandy was surprised because it was such a simple meal.

"It made her so happy that you remembered," my mom said.

How could I forget?

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

VICKY MOCHAMA

We can not stand by as the U.S. becomes unsafe

It is time for Canada to suspend the Safe Third Country Agreement. In fact, it is past due.

With its policies, Donald Trump's government has declared open season on Muslims and immigrants. The courts struck down the initial travel ban, yet the Trump administration has doubled down on its commitments.

Now the dangerous rhetoric and policy from the West Wing has filtered down to its citizenry.

Jewish community centres and cemeteries are receiving threats. In Washington state Deep Rai, a Sikh man, was shot on his driveway on March 3 by a suspect who reportedly told him to "go back to your country." In Kansas last month, two men were shot, one fatally, by a man who allegedly asked the Indian immigrants if their "status was legal" before opening fire, according to reported witness accounts.

The American government looks set to formalize a system of oppression directed at its racialized citizens and at migrants searching for safety. They must do this without Canada's complacency.

The uptick in migrants claiming asylum by walking across the border is a direct response to the climate of fear that migrants face under Donald Trump. It is also a response to the particular requirements of the Safe Third Country Agreement, which requires refugees declare asylum in the first country they arrive in, with the assumption that both are sanctuaries. This only applies, however, at official border crossings.

As Vice reported, asylum claimants who mistakenly apply at an official crossing actually risk deportation back to the original country they are fleeing.

Only a broken process penalizes people for using it.

Refugees are risking life and limb to get here; they are telling Canadians that the U.S. is not safe for them. Our government has responded to this urgent message with vagueness and equivocation.

Asked Monday by NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair if the U.S. is still safe for refugees, Prime Minister Trudeau didn't answer directly. On the updated travel ban, Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale told reporters: "This is a detailed matter with some careful nuances and we're going to be looking at all the details so we can provide Canadians with complete information about everything they need to know."

The responsible course here is to suspend the Safe Third Country Agreement. The moral – and smart – move is to follow up that suspension with a coherent plan to assist refugees arriving from the United States.

We are now on the second iteration of the executive order, which comes well over a month after the chaos sown by the first. Despite calls from a number of legal organizations to suspend the agreement, including Harvard Law School, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association and Amnesty International Canada, our government has stood still.

Migrants have not. They cannot afford to.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

George Michael died of natural causes as the result of heart disease, a British coroner has ruled

3 TREATS TO MAKE SQUARES HIP AGAIN

Sure, squares are considered the domain of grandmothers and church cookbooks. But these frumpy delicacies have stood the test of time for a reason. All but the fanciest are faster and simpler than cookies, and all are satisfyingly chewy and extremely shareable. We think the humble bar cookie deserves more love. Sometimes, cutting corners can be a good thing. Here are some favourite recipes to get you started. **GENNA BUCK**

The humble, almost retro square could be primed for a timely kitchen comeback. ISTOCK

1 Browned butter crispy rice treats

Deb Perelman, the home chef behind the Internet sensation Smitten Kitchen, is an evangelist for this modernized version of a classic after-school snack. They take "five minutes, tops" longer than the traditional version, Perelman wrote, and if you're willing to share, "get ready to make friends."

Ingredients:

- ½ cup unsalted butter, plus extra for the pan
- 1 (285-gram) bag marshmallows
- Heaping 1/4 teaspoon coarse sea salt
- 6 cups crispy rice cereal

Directions:

1. Butter an 8-inch square cake pan with 2-inch sides.

2. In a large pot, melt butter over medium-low heat. Watch carefully. As soon as the butter takes on a nutty color, turn the heat off and stir in the marshmallows. Stir until the marshmallows are smooth.

3. Remove the pot from the stove and stir in the salt and cereal. Quickly spread into prepared pan. Cool before cutting into squares.

SMITTENKITCHEN.COM

2 Fresh Lemon Bars

These sunshine-hued, sweet-tart bars are a picnic standby, and they're ideal for getting kids involved in the kitchen, **Ceri Marsh and Laura Keogh** of Sweet Potato Chronicles write. Little hands can help. And, it goes without saying, they're pros at gobbling them down.

Ingredients:

Crust

- 2 cups flour
- 1/3 cup wheat germ
- 1/3 cup confectioner's sugar
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 2 sticks frozen butter

Filling

- 1 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 3/4 cups lemon juice (I used 4 Meyer lemons)
- 1 Tbsp zest
- 3 eggs
- 1 egg yolk

Directions:

1. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Butter a 9x13 glass pan with a bit of butter. Mix dry ingredients for the crust. Grate the sticks of frozen butter with a cheese grater. Toss the frozen butter curls into the flour mixture until you have a mealy texture. Press the loose dough into the pan and use your hands to flatten it. Chill.

2. Bake the crust for 15 to 18 minutes until just beginning to turn golden.

3. Mix sugar, flour and salt for the filling. Add lemon juice and zest and blend well. Whisk in eggs and the yolk. Gently pour filing mixture onto the hot crust. If you don't pour a small stream, the weight of the filling will dent the crust.

4. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes until the filling has just set. Allow to cool completely before slicing into squares.

SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

3 Chocolate almond toffee bars

These treats — which are similar to a coconut-laden southern speciality, the Hello Dolly square — are one of TV chef **Anna Olsen**'s most requested recipes.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups rolled oats
- 1/2 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 tsp fine salt
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1 cup Skor toffee bits
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup sliced almonds
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C). Grease and line an 8-inch square pan with parchment paper so that the paper hangs over the sides of the pan.

2. Stir the oats, graham crumbs and salt in a bowl to combine, then stir in the melted butter. Press the crumbly oat mixture into the prepared pan. Sprinkle Skor bits evenly on top, followed by chocolate chips and sliced almonds.

3. Pour condensed milk evenly over pan. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes, or until the top is golden brown and the edges are bubbling.

4. Cool to room temperature in the pan, then chill for at least 4 hours before slicing into bars. IN THE KITCHEN WITH ANNA: NEW WAYS WITH THE CLASSICS, WHITECAP BOOKS

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JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

Parenting: By Mother Russia

Keri Russell as Elizabeth Jennings keeps a close watch on Holly Taylor as Paige Jennings in The Americans. FX

THE SHOW: The Americans, Season 5, Episode 1
THE MOMENT: The self-defence lesson

American teenager Paige Jennings (Holly Taylor) is losing sleep over the knowledge that her parents Elizabeth (Keri Russell) and Philip (Matthew Rhys) are Soviet spies living under deep cover in the U.S. "I want to help you with your nightmares," Elizabeth tells her.

Elizabeth takes Paige to the garage. She pushes her shoulders, hard. Paige staggers. Elizabeth pushes her again. Paige moves away. Elizabeth follows and pushes her face. "Mom!" Paige protests.

"You can't be afraid to hit and you can't be afraid to hit back," Elizabeth tells her. "You don't want to get hurt? You have to be willing to do anything to protect yourself. Make a fist." Paige does. Elizabeth tucks in her thumb. "Like this, always," she says.

This is a great little scene, scary not just for Paige, but for us. For four seasons, Elizabeth has been like this, always: the unwavering zealot who will do anything for Mother Russia. Here, she's not just teaching her daughter, she's explaining herself.

Russell is perfect for this character, a petite beauty yet hard as nails. Her face in this scene is a study. You think she might feel torn about pushing her kid around, but nope. She means it.

Suddenly we get a flash of where this season is going: If Elizabeth ever had to protect herself from Paige, would she go all the way? It's a shivery thought.

That confrontation doesn't happen in this episode. But another, lesser one does. Does Elizabeth make good on her word? Damn right she does.

The Americans airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m. on FX Canada.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

Patinkin's playing a part in his real-life homeland

INTERVIEW

Spy drama is righting 'error' of its depiction of Muslims

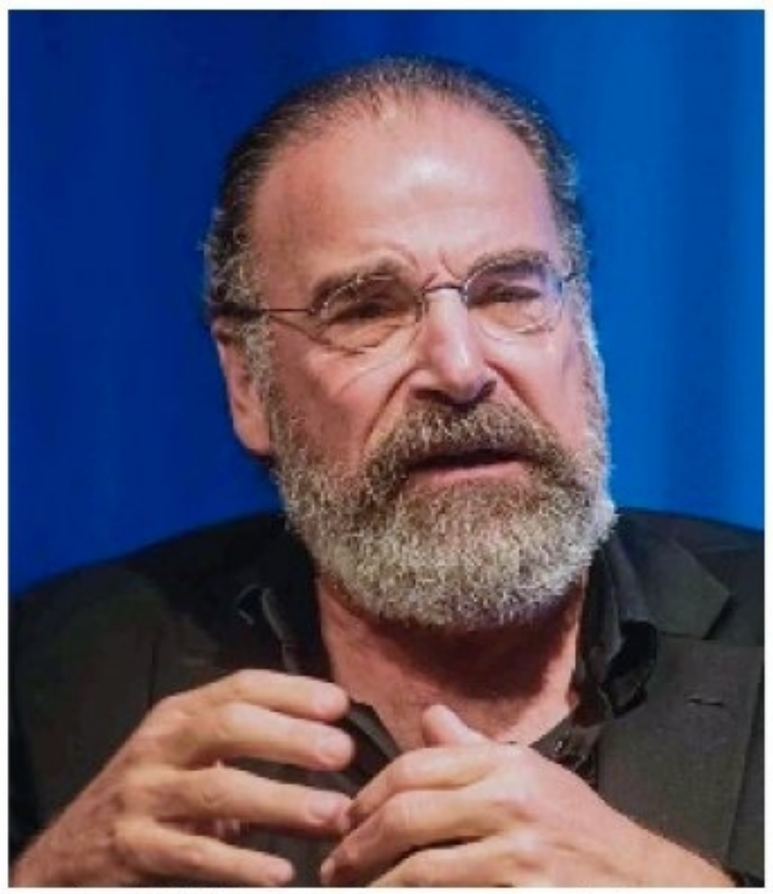
Mandy Patinkin knows that his show Homeland hasn't always shown Muslims in the best light — but he says that is changing with the award-winning show's sixth season.

"It's deeply important to me," he said.

"In all kinds of entertainment — movies, television — there are always the bad guys; the cowboys and Indians, then the Russians were the bad guys, the Nazis were the bad guys. Now it seems like Muslim 'terrorists' are the bad guys," he said.

"So, inadvertently, because it's an action show, it's an on-the-edge-of-your-seat political drama that Homeland is, unintentionally we were not helping the Muslim community and we take responsibility for it. And I know I can speak for the writers when they want to right that error that happened because of storytelling."

The Showtime show, which also stars Claire Danes, is highly acclaimed but has also been criticized for its depiction of Muslims as terrorists. In the new season, Danes' character Carrie Mathison is back in the U.S., helping American Muslims.



Mandy Patinkin is back as Saul Berenson for a sixth season of Homeland. GETTY IMAGES

"We're part of the problem, but we also desperately want to be part of the cure and we are working toward that in our storylines," he said. "If you watch the whole thing as a whole — when you read a novel just don't read one chapter — if you watch the whole thing as a whole, especially this season, the sixth season, you'll see who the bad guys really are and you may have surprises in store for you," he said.

America will be made great again by nourishing and encouraging people's moral and ethical nature.
Mandy Patinkin

Patinkin, who also praised the Muslim community for its contributions to the world's civilization, is trying to make a difference in his own life as well.

He works with refugees as part of his work with the International Rescue Committee, and he urged President Trump to be more welcoming to people displaced from war-torn countries.

Trump has revised his initial travel ban to six countries instead of seven, but they are all from Muslim-majority nations, and it temporarily shuts down America's refugee program.

"He wants people to like him and to like America and to make America great again. America will be made great again by nourishing and encouraging people's moral and ethical nature. Encouraging their human-beingness, not their fear," Patinkin said.

"I beg the leaders of the world, of the U.S., of the European community, to stop being afraid, to start working together, to listen to the lives of these souls that are no different than your own family, who are desperately in need and to work in solidarity with their moral and ethical code and nature that I know they have."

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LIQUID ASSETS PETER ROCKWELL

Bottles of substance with a bit of style too

Not that I like cheating on my relationship with the liquid side of wine, it's just that I'm a sucker for a pretty package.

While a psychedelic label wrapped around a sexy bottle would never make me admire poorly made juice, I know that when faced with a wall of wine the average consumer, me included, is drawn to anything bright and shiny. Arguably the most famous example of style over substance was the tubby, straw-wrapped flasks, called a fiasco, that the reds from Italy's Chianti region made popular back in the 1970s. Now filled with premium wine, the bottle is actually making a comeback.

Keeping with the Italian theme, Enoitalia is a company that knows how to rock a receptacle. Resembling a gigantic perfume sample (the ones that come in those small cardboard folders) its Voga Pinot Grigio ($13.95-$16.99) was a hit right out of the gate.

Made from grapes grown in the provinces of Veneto and Trentino the 2015 vintage offers a clean, lean mix of bright fruit without the steely character or sweeter overtones often associated with Pinot Grigio.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

metro WHEELS
Your essential daily news

California Highway Patrol threaten charges after rider jumps over freeway

VW aims to seduce with Atlas

HANDOUT

REVIEW

Will crossover be enough to gain back buyers' trust?

Sami Haj-Assaad
AutoGuide.com

The German automaker is addressing a weakness in its lineup with a new three-row crossover called the Atlas. It's not an overstatement to call the Atlas an important vehicle to Volkswagen.

Not only do they have to prove to buyers that they're a competent automaker again, but they also have to deliver in a segment that's extremely important to North Americans.

The Atlas is a big car but is based on the modular MQB platform that also underpins the Golf compact. Competing with the likes of the Ford Explorer and Toyota Highlander isn't easy, but fortunately, the Atlas starts with this well-developed platform.

In terms of handling feel, it feels agile and responsive, highlighting an ability to excel as a road trip vehicle. Don't forget that for many year VW produced the iconic Type 2 Microbus that's often remembered as the go-to cross-country cruiser.

There's a bit of that spirit here in the Atlas: the light steering is appropriate for the segment and the suspension glides over rough roads. The car comes with a turbocharged four-cylinder engine as base equipment, sending 235 horsepower to the front wheels. Optionally, you can get a V6 engine and all-wheel drive. The V6 seems a bit underpowered at 276 horses, while the competition is closer to 300 but the eight-speed automatic transmission does what it can to put the engine in the best gear for acceleration and responsiveness.

The 4Motion all-wheel-drive system is very similar to what we've seen in the Golf Alltrack, but has some extra capability via different drive modes that can be toggled through a knob on the center console. The four modes — on road, snow, off-road and off-road custom — change settings including stability control intervention, gear changes and even the behaviour of the ABS for the best grip and traction in almost any conditions. Some, such as the on-road mode, have extra settings so you can get a drive feeling that is tailored to you.

In addition to their capability, buyers choose crossovers because of the space they offer. In this area, the Atlas really excels. Headroom in the front and second row is fantastic, but the legroom in that second row is luxurious. Furthermore, seats slide, offering those in the third row a surprising amount of space.

While full details on pricing, trim levels and specifications will be shared in April, we were told that the base Atlas will come in at $35,690 and top out in the fifties.

While still prototypes, the Atlases we drove were extremely solid vehicles and impressed in many ways. Volkswagen is taking this market seriously, especially since it's so late to the big crossover party.

THE CHECKLIST | 2018 VOLKSWAGEN ATLAS REVIEW

THE BASICS

Engine: 2.0-litre turbo four-cylinder, 3.6L V6
Output: 235 horsepower (2.0T), 276 hp (V6)
Transmission: Eight-speed automatic
Fuel Economy (L/100 km): Not available
Price: Starts at $35,690

LOVE IT

- Spacious
- Low starting price
- Smooth and comfortable driving dynamics

LEAVE IT

- V6 is just OK
- Interior design hit or miss

INNOVATION

Toyota's latest self-driving car will share info, get smarter over time

Jason Siu
AutoGuide.com

The Lexus LS 600hL will learn individual driver habits and benefit from shared intelligence from other cars.

Unveiled at Toyota's Prius Challenge event in Sonoma, California, the 2.0-generation advanced safety research vehicle is built on the current-generation Lexus LS 600hL and features a robust drive-by-wire interface. Toyota says the 2.0 is designed to be a flexible, plug-and-play test platform that can be upgraded continuously and often. It is also the first autonomous testing platformed developed entirely by Toyota Research Institute (TRI).

The vehicle focuses heavily on machine vision and machine learning with layered and overlapping LIDAR, radar and camera sensor array so that it doesn't have to depend heavily on high-definition maps. This is especially important since near-term systems will be designed for use in areas that haven't been mapped.

The technology stack on the test vehicle will be used to develop both of TRI's core research paths: Chauffeur and Guardian systems. Chauffeur represents the always deployed, fully-autonomous system classified by SAE as unrestricted Level 5 autonomous and Level 4 restricted and geo-fenced operation.

Toyota says Guardian is a high-level driver assist system that constantly monitors the driving environment inside and outside the vehicle.

Its goal is to always be ready to alert the driver of potential dangers and interfering when needed to help avoid a crash.

"Basically, it is a smart vehicle designed to get smarter over time," said TRI CEO Gill Pratt. "It will learn individual driver habits and abilities and will benefit from shared intelligence from other cars as data gathering, sharing and connectivity technologies advance. We believe Guardian can probably be deployed sooner and more widely than Chauffeur, providing high-level driver-assist features capable of helping mitigate collisions and save lives, sooner rather than later."

TRI's 2.0 advanced safety research vehicle. HANDOUT

5 COOLEST KINDS OF HOOD ORNAMENTS

The hood ornament reputedly dates all the way back to the chariots of Egyptian Pharaohs. As a sculpture on the prow of a car, though, hood ornaments evolved from the motometer. Designed as a temperature gauge, these important pieces got fancier over time and eventually became a popular way to personalize a car. Here are the five coolest hood ornaments out there. SEBASTIEN BELL/AUTOGUIDE.COM

HANDOUT

1 Humanoid

As far as we can tell, there are five basic types of ornamentation for the prow of a car, the first of which is the humanoid. Possibly the best-known style, this type uses the human form as its inspiration. These aren't just cool because they remind us of the figureheads on wooden ships, they're also almost all excellent pieces of Art Deco design. The humanoid ornament has figured prominently on Packards, and the Pierce Arrow throughout history, but the only one that could have won this category is one of the only hood ornaments that continues to adorn cars to this day: Rolls-Royce's Spirit of Ecstasy (pictured).

Not only is it beautiful, it comes with a tale of intrigue, too. Originally commissioned by a Rolls owner as a secret love note to his mistress, the sculptor was so pleased with the result that when he was asked by Rolls-Royce to design a standard ornament for the brand, he submitted the same, largely unchanged figure.

GETTY IMAGES

2 Crest

The second type of hood ornament is the crest. Like a coat of arms, this hood ornament is usually comprised of a basic shape with the manufacturer's name included. It could be argued that this type of ornament still exists, just glued flat against the car. Studebaker used the crest, as did Buick and Maybach, but our favorite is Cadillac's (pictured here).

The ornament takes its inspiration from the family crest of Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, who founded Detroit back when it was part of New France. The crest had a crown and merlettes on it, as well as a laurel wreath, all of which referred to Cadillac's noble blood. The only problem was that he didn't really have any royal blood and he likely created the crest himself. But what more American story could there be than a person of humble origins who came to the new world and made something of themselves?

GETTY IMAGES

3 Animals

Next comes the animal ornament. Possibly the most common type, these ornaments use the attributes of beasts to make promises about the performance of a car. Like other types, animal ornaments can be about speed, but they can also be about more. Bugatti used an elephant on its Royale to speak to the scale of its massive regal limousine and also used a British Bulldog.

One of the best uses of the animal, though, was the stork on the hood of the Hispano-Suiza (pictured), based on the emblem first used by the French airforce's third squadron during the First World War.

The squadron was known as "Les Cigognes," because they reminded the French people of the storks that flew in the German-occupied Alsace region. The planes were powered by Hispano-Suizaa V8s. After the war, Hispano-Suiza decided to honour the famous third squadron by using the same stork on its cars.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

4 Abstract

Next, we come to the abstract hood ornament. Freed from the requirements of literal representation, these can represent speed or comfort or luxury with pure design. Packard experimented with such ornaments in the late '40s, as did Oldsmobile a decade before. Probably the most American type of ornament, they were popular during the jet era and speak to the nation's growing confidence.

Our favourite appeared on the Buick Super 8 line. The ornament is known as the "Bombsight" (pictured above) and first appeared in 1946 when postwar production began. It was a bold, luxurious item in a time when chrome was hard to come by. The ornament later came to include a V, to proudly proclaim that these were powered by Buick's Rocket V8, which was popular among hot rodders for its torque production.

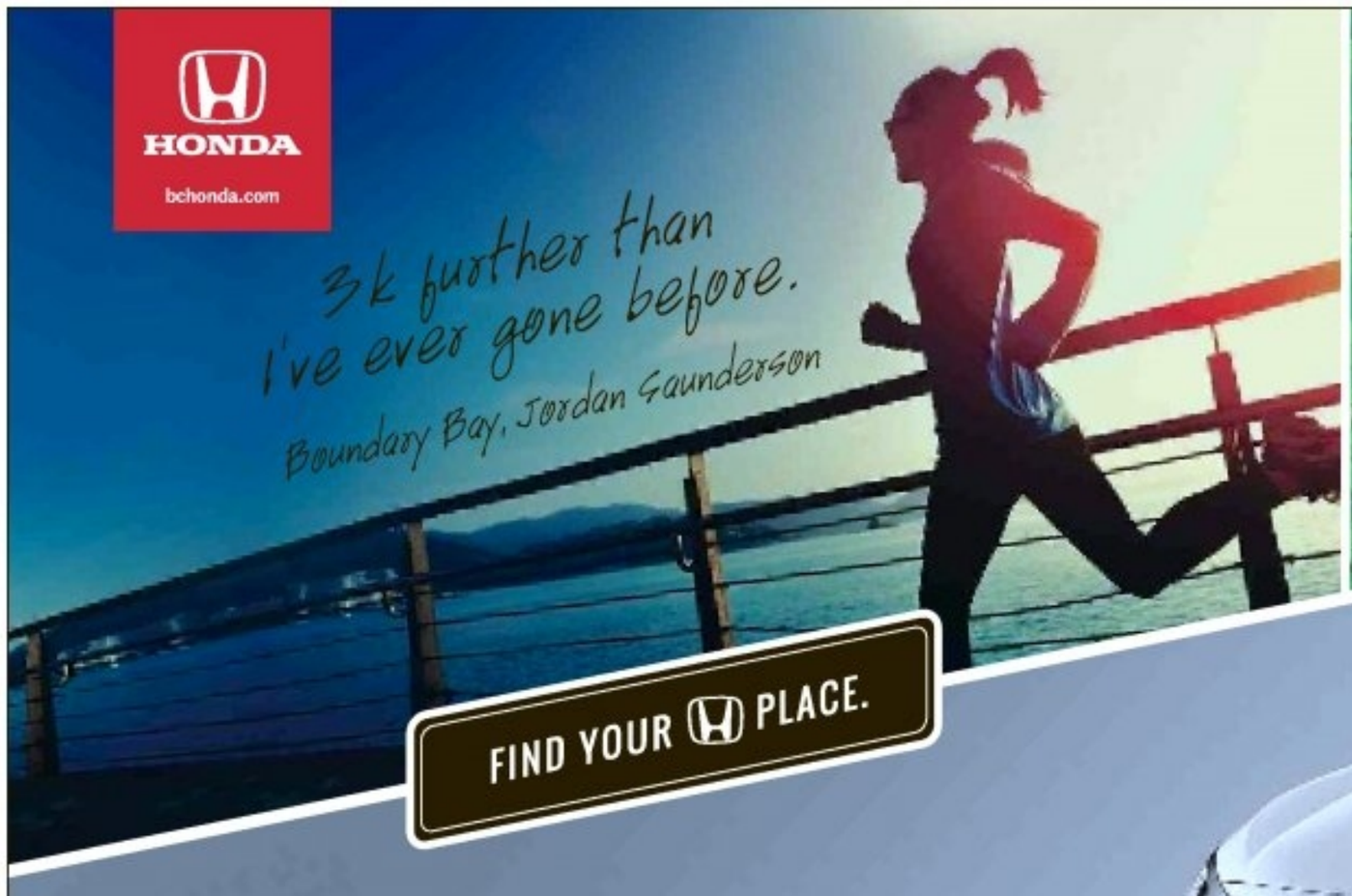
5 Tiny sculptures

Finally, the graven image. These are tiny sculptures made to look like a specific object. As with the abstract ornament, these were popular in America during the jet age because, as you can imagine, everyone wanted a rocket or a jet plane on the hood of their car. Again, these are mostly streamlined and Art Deco, and they were employed by brands like Moon Motor Cars and Oldsmobile.

Sometimes they aren't about speed, though, as was the case with Plymouth's early Mayflower ornament (pictured left). In its press materials, the company writes that it got its name because its products were simple, tough, and effective, like the pilgrims. In a moment of candor, though, the head of sales at Chrysler said that the company was named after a brand of baler twine, because Chrysler wanted to poach rural customers from Ford and the association to the pilgrims came later. Whatever the case, the ship is unique and looks good.

HONDA

bchonda.com



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Tesla fans to create commercials

COMPETITION

Homemade ads will be aired

Tesla has never advertised, instead relying on social media for marketing.

But a fifth-grader named Bria wanted to change that, writing a letter to CEO Elon Musk for a school project. "I have noticed that you do not advertise, but many people make homemade commercials for Tesla and some of them are very good, they look professional and they are entertaining," she wrote. "So, I think that you should run a competition on who can make the best homemade Tesla commercial and the winners will get their commercial aired."

Musk responded on Twitter, saying the company will do as she suggests. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

ALL PHOTOS HANDOUT; SCREENSHOT

DRIVING DREAMS

The smallest Rolls-Royce

Rolls-Royce hopes its latest creation will help put a smile on kids' faces. Made specifically for St. Richard's Hospital Pediatric Day Surgery Unit, the Rolls-Royce SRH will allow children awaiting surgery to drive themselves to the operating room, through corridors lined with "traffic signs." The hospital hopes the car and driving experience will help reduce child patient stress.

Developed by Rolls-Royce's Bespoke Manufacturing team, who dedicated over 400 hours of their own time, the SRH features a two-tone paint scheme of Andalusian White and Salamanca Blue, finished with a St. James Red coachline.

To keep things safe, it has a top speed of 16 km/h and power comes from a 24-volt gel battery. The speed setting is variable and can be set to 6 km/h.

JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

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HOLLYWOOD

Challenger's Fast 8 close-up

The Fate of the Furious has a new international trailer.

The eighth movie in a franchise no one believed would live past one will arrive in movie theaters April 14. Like other recent Fast and Furious movies, this one will head to several locations around the world including Cuba. The film crew has also been spotted in Ohio and Iceland.

The series isn't so much about modified cars and street racing as it was in the beginning but there's still a strong focus on the vehicles and The Fate of the Furious has no shortage of amazing machines. Expect to see plenty of modern exotics and supercars in the movie and a strong Dodge presence with the new Challenger SRT Demon.

JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

RANGE ROVER

Velar's YouTube doc

Land Rover has released a new video detailing how the Range Rover Velar came to life.

The fourth member of the Range Rover family was introduced earlier this week, designed to slot between the existing Range Rover Evoque and Range Rover Sport models. The British automaker's has released a 15-minute documentary-style film directed by Ben Lawrie and narrated by British actor Damian Lewis. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

AUTO NEWS

GM sells one of its automakers to PSA Group

France's PSA Group has acquired General Motors' Opel division. The PSA Group manufactures Peugeot and Citroen vehicles and shares some production in an existing European alliance with GM. Opel recorded a 16th consecutive year of losses in 2016, despite selling over 1.1-million vehicles. The French automaker is now poised to sell over five-million units a year with the acquisition. While General Motors loses over 1.1-million units on its yearly tally, which will likely drop the automaker from the top three of the best-selling automotive groups worldwide. Last year, GM came in third behind Volkswagen and Toyota. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

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KR306830A

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metro SPORT

Two-time Cy Young Award winner and former Jays ace Roy Halladay was back with the Phillies Tuesday to serve as a spring training guest instructor

COURT

Alleged victim of ski coach: I had abortion

A former competitive Canadian skier says she had an abortion when she was about 15 after having unprotected sex with ex-coach Bertrand Charest numerous times.

Charest is on trial on 57 charges, including sexual assault and breach of trust in connection with the alleged abuse of 12 females between the ages of 12 and 19.

Charest, who is now 51, worked with Alpine Canada's women's development team between 1996 and 1998.

The witness, whose identity is protected by law, testified on Tuesday that Charest first kissed her when she was 14 and they were on a ski trip in Italy.

She said the sex they began having when she was about 15 was consensual but that she realized later on Charest had been taking advantage of her. She said Charest told her she was the love of his life and that they'd have a future together with a house, a farm and horses.

After she became pregnant, Charest picked her up from school and drove her to have the abortion, she told the court.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WITNESSES

- The woman is the sixth alleged victim to testify at the trial, which began last week in St-Jerome, Que.
- The allegations date back to the 1990s and also involve locations such as Whistler, New Zealand, Italy and the United States.

NHL CANUCKS FALL AGAINST HABS Canucks defenceman Troy Stecher tries to clear Canadiens right-winger Brendan Gallagher from in front of goaltender Ryan Miller at Rogers Arena on Tuesday night. The Habs skated away with a 2-1 win after a shot deflected off of Montreal's Paul Byron and past Miller in overtime. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Bayern completes rout of Arsenal

Bayern Munich completed Arsenal's Champions League humiliation on Tuesday by inflicting another 5-1 rout on the north London club, which collapsed to its heaviest loss at the Emirates Stadium after having captain Laurent Koscielny sent off.

A night that began with protests against manager Arsene Wenger ended with his side out of the competition in the round of 16 for the seventh consecutive season after the 10-2 aggregate loss.

TUESDAY In London

5	1
BAYERN	ARSENAL

Aggregate score 10-2

Wenger deflected questions about his own future by reprimanding the referee for what the Frenchman called "unexplainable and scandalous" decisions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Sharpe on point in halfpipe

Canada's Cassie Sharpe ended the World Cup halfpipe skiing season with a gold medal on Tuesday, giving her momentum heading into next week's world championships.

Sharpe, from Calgary, won handily with a score of 90.80, finishing ahead of Japan's Ayana Onozuka (86.00) and France's Marie Martinod (84.00).

Martinod finished atop the overall World Cup halftime standings, while Sharpe was fourth. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada keeps Blue Jays grounded in WBC tune-up

Justin Morneau hit a two-run single off J.A. Happ in the second inning and Canada's World Baseball Classic team cruised to a 7-1 win over the Toronto Blue Jays in an exhibition game Tuesday.

Canada's Dalton Pompey had two hits and scored a run against his major-league team.

Canada plays its first 2017 World Baseball Classic game Thursday against the Dominican Republic in Miami. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nowitzki surpasses 30,000 career points

NBA

Dirk helps Mavs build big early lead en route to win

Dirk Nowitzki scored the 20 points he needed for 30,000 in his career in barely more than a quarter, and the Dallas Mavericks celebrated with their second straight easy home win over the Los Angeles Lakers, a 122-111 victory Tuesday night.

The seven-foot German became the sixth NBA player and the first international one to reach the milestone, joining four Hall of Famers and a future one in Kobe Bryant. Nowitzki is one of three to score all 30,000-plus with one team. The others are Karl Malone (Utah) and Bryant (Lakers).

The 38-year-old Nowitzki matched the best first quarter in his 19 seasons by scoring 18 points, and reached the hallowed mark on a 15-foot fadeaway jumper from the baseline over Larry Nance Jr. with 10:58 remaining in the second quarter.

Nowitzki scored all of his 25 points — one shy of his season high — in the first half to send the Mavericks to a 31-point lead in the third quarter. This was the Lakers' first visit to Dallas since setting a franchise record with a 49-point loss, a 122-73 blowout on Jan. 22.

"It's been a crazy ride with a lot of ups and a lot of downs but you guys stuck with me and we hung in there," Nowitzki told the crowd shortly after the final buzzer. "Hopefully a lot more to come."

Dallas extended a franchise record with its 14th straight win over the Lakers, who got a triple-double from Julius Randle with 13 points, 18 rebounds and 10 assists in their eighth straight loss.

After the signature shot for 30,000, Nowitzki added a three-pointer for 23 points in the first 14 minutes before the game was stopped as teammates mobbed the wide-smiling star near midcourt. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dirk Nowitzki runs down court after scoring his 30,000th career point on Tuesday in Dallas. RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

6

The number of members in the 30,000-point club:

1. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (38,387)
2. Karl Malone (36,928)
3. Kobe Bryant (33,643)
4. Michael Jordan (32,292)
5. Wilt Chamberlain (31,419)
6. Dirk Nowitzki (30,005)

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Fast Vegetarian Skillet Lasagna

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Achieve maximum comfort food satisfaction with minimal mess when you whip up this one-pan dinner.

Ready in 20 minutes
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serves 6

Ingredients
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 medium zucchini, diced
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- salt and pepper
- 6 to 8 mushrooms, sliced
- 1 x 19 oz can of tomatoes
- 1 cup water
- 8 oz (250 grams) of dried pasta like farfalle
- 1 cup grated mozzarella
- 1 cup ricotta
- small handful of fresh basil

Directions

1. Warm up olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onions and garlic and allow to soften, about 3 minutes. Toss in zucchini, mushrooms and oregano. Stir occasionally until vegetables start to soften. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

2. Add tomatoes and break with the back of a spoon. Pour in water. Stir and bring to a simmer.

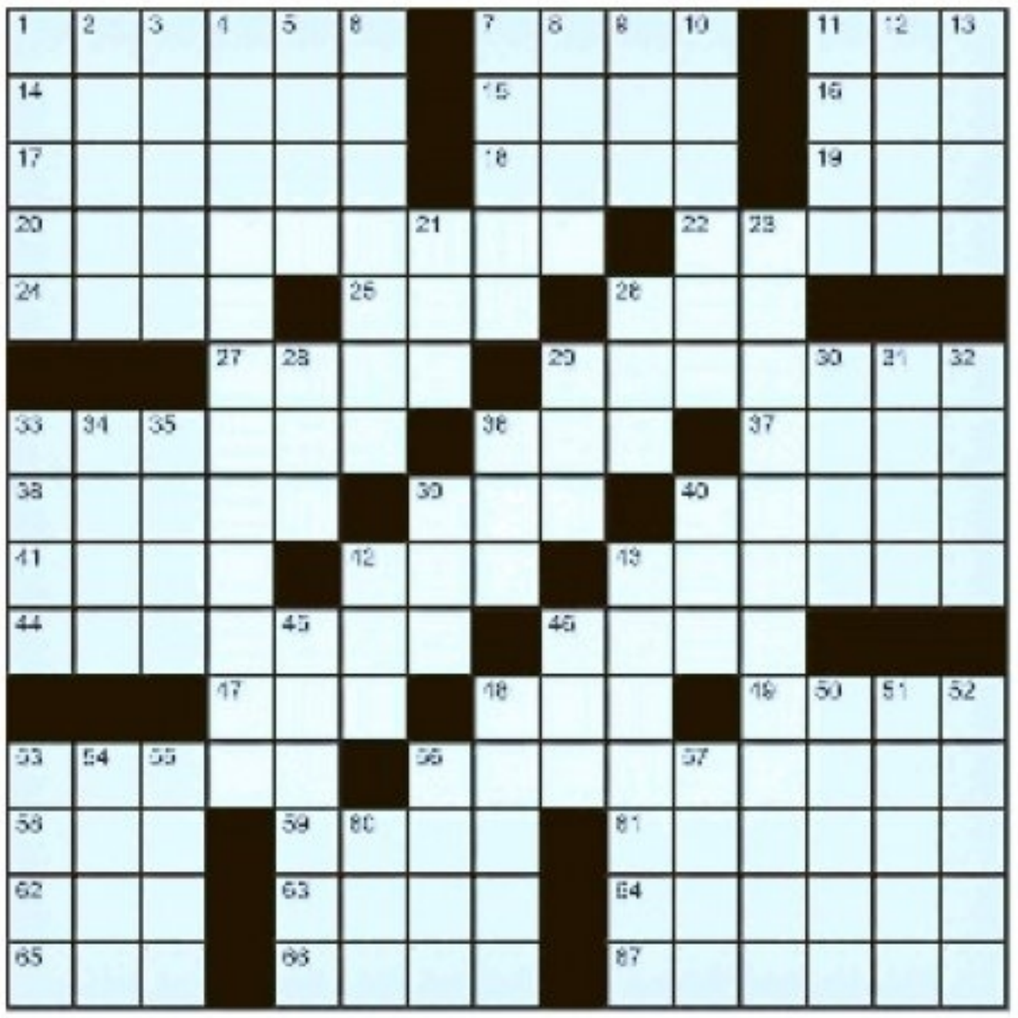
3. Pour pasta into the sauce and make sure it is submerged. Allow to simmer 15 minutes, stirring so it doesn't stick to the bottom.

4. When pasta is just about cooked, stir in mozzarella. Spoon ricotta over top of the dish. Cover the skillet for about 3 minutes to allow the cheese to warm through and soften. Sprinkle fresh basil before serving.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Cucumber/lettuce/tomatoes concoctions
7. Member of Mary's flock
11. Intl. clock standard
14. Turn teary: 2 wds.
15. Corn lily
16. Impatient shout!
17. Shakespeare: Henry V character married to the King of France
18. Plug
19. Bakery bread
20. "__ When We Touch" by Toronto-born singer Dan Hill
22. Flower
24. Box
25. Ford, for one
26. Sainte-__ (Quebec City sector)
27. US Congressman Mr. Gowdy
29. Family tree member
33. Mistake/slip, in Latin
36. Don't hire a pro, e.g.
37. Sort of word
38. Decrease
39. Peat __
40. Newfoundland: Norway-like feature in Gros Morne National Park
41. "Perry Mason" star Raymond
42. Pottery creation
43. Out of sorts
44. Highlights in hair
46. Second-year student [abbr.]
47. Chicago trains
48. Poetically distant
49. Beaks
53. "Because the Night" songstress Ms. Smith
56. Wonderful
58. Cowboy's command!
59. Chew away
61. Consumption
62. Flora's mother in "The Piano" (1993)
63. Musical instrument, French __
64. Shut
65. Mr. Savalas, for short
66. 2, 2, 2, 2, 2
67. Most reasoned

DOWN
1. The __ Alps
2. Fabled name
3. Animal of The Andes
4. Thoroughfare in downtown Ottawa: 2 wds.
5. Two singers/One song
6. Edits the film in a way
7. 'In' indefinitely inmate
8. Foe of the Allies in World War II
9. Rich money amt.
10. Rocky __ (Sylvester Stallone role)
11. Pita serving of #7-Across
12. Hellmann's, e.g.
13. "Gloria" band from Belfast
21. British Prime Minister, Theresa __
23. For Better or For Worse cartoonist: 2 wds.
26. Stir-__
28. Ms. McClanahan
29. Actor Mr. Young
30. Jim Morrison, for one
31. Knit one __ two...
32. Raggedy Ann's pal
33. Research rooms, e.g.
34. Edge
35. Catherine __ (Wife of Henry VIII)
36. Lassie, for one
39. "__ Stop" by The Hollies
40. Fashionable dresser
42. Writer Ms. Rowling's
43. __ Pilate, "Jesus Christ Superstar" (1973) role
45. Dismount
46. Little Ricky, to Lucy
48. Dullsville declarations
50. Stage: French
51. Cycles
52. Fragrance
53. Excellent, in slang
54. __-de-camp
55. Greenish-blue
56. Betting card game
57. "__ and the King" (1999)
60. Not later

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Be patient with family members today to avoid squabbles and arguments. (This is not a good way to start your day — or anyone else's.) Be chill.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
If you can get past some tension this morning, the rest of the day will be quiet and comforting. In fact, you will want to cocoon at home if you can.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Money disputes or an argument about something you own might occur this morning. Try to move past it so that you can enjoy a busy day full of errands and fun.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
People are touchy this morning. Give them a wide berth. Later in the day, you will be focused on money and cash flow. Ka-ching.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This morning it's easy to be grumpy. However, soon the Moon moves into your sign, which gives you an advantage over everyone else. Enjoy your good fortune.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Avoid morning arguments with a female acquaintance. Later in the day, do some research or find some privacy, and enjoy being on your own.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You like to keep the peace. Therefore, avoid arguments in the morning, because the rest of the day is warm and friendly.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Steer clear of sensitive subjects like religion, politics and racial issues this morning. Later in the day, bosses, parents and VIPs will talk about you for some reason.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Disputes about shared property might arise this morning. Let these go, because what you really want to do is get out and have a change of scenery today. Do something different.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Be patient with partners and close friends this morning to avoid arguments. Later today, you might ponder how your values are different from the values of others.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You have to go more than halfway when dealing with others today because the Moon is opposite your sign. This simply requires a little patience, tolerance and cooperation.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Avoid disputes at work this morning. You don't need this! Later today, you will play and schmooze with others, as well as delight in sports or playful activities with children.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

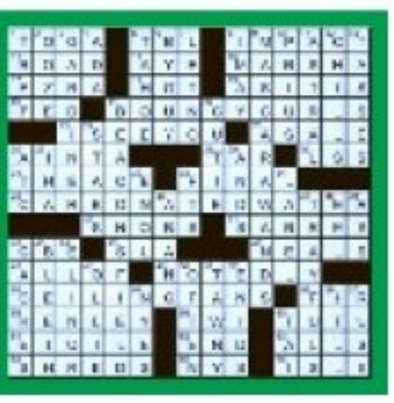
	5	9			1	4	2	7
3			5		8			9
1			7					5
9			3					8
	2	4	8				5	
			1				4	
			2			1		
			9			7		
	6	8				5		

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games

5	3	7	1	9	4	8	2	6
1	4	2	7	6	8	3	9	5
8	6	9	2	3	5	4	7	1
9	2	3	8	5	1	6	4	7
7	5	4	3	2	6	1	8	9
6	1	8	9	4	7	5	3	2
2	8	1	6	7	3	9	5	4
3	9	5	4	1	2	7	6	8
4	7	6	5	8	9	2	1	3



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